

Emory University, Department of History – Spring 2001

History 487H: Junior/Senior Colloquium

Healers and Patients

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[Contact](#)

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Instructor - Dr. Jeffrey S. Reznick

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Colloquium Meeting Time and Location: Mondays 4:00-6:00 PM in Woodruff Library 874

Instructor's Office: 1385 Oxford Road

Office Hours: by appointment

Colloquium Content, Goals, and Format

Healers and patients play key roles in the history of medicine but rarely are their interactions examined in depth to illuminate continuity and change in western medical practice and in culture and society generally. In this colloquium you will examine relationships between healers and patients in a variety of British and American contexts, from the early nineteenth century to the present. You will learn to read and think critically about these interactions as they have been mediated by race, age, class, gender, religion, war, politics, and economics, among other categories. Through our discussions, you will enhance your understanding of the social and cultural history of medicine while gaining writing and public speaking experience that will serve you well in other advanced history courses and university classes.

This colloquium consists of 13 discussions of primary and secondary texts in addition to films about relationships between healers and patients. Our meetings will provide opportunities for detailed and extended assessments of particular historical issues and problems as well as an introduction to the use of primary sources in historical analysis. Our work together will also emphasize that the study of history

involves thinking critically about the past and its relationship to the origins and development of present society.

Office Hours and Email

If you have questions, comments, or concerns about the colloquium or any of the assigned material, please make an appointment to speak with me. I will make every effort to help you with your writing and your comprehension of the assigned material. I prefer to discuss your questions comments and concerns face to face, so please email me only to make an appointment to meet or if you have an emergency and cannot attend one of our discussions.

Colloquium Readings

The following required readings are available for purchase at the Emory Bookstore:

- Louisa May Alcott, **Hospital Sketches**
- Charlotte Perkins Gilman, **The Yellow Wallpaper**
- David McCullough et. al., **Influenza 1918**
- Florence Nightingale, **Notes on Hospitals**
- Edward Shorter, **Bedside Manners**
- Nina Gilden Seavey, et. al., **A Paralyzing Fear: The Triumph over Polio in America**
- Kate L. Turabian, **A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations**

Other assigned articles and monograph selections will reproduced in compliance with copyright law and made available to you free of charge.

Instructor's Expectations

I expect that you will arrive on time to discussions, hand in your written assignments on time, and come to all meetings having read the material assigned for that day.

Colloquium Requirements and Grading

- regular participation in our discussions (30%)
- assigned colloquium presentation, written 3-page (750-word) report, and role as discussion leader (30%)
- final research paper (20 pages or 5,000 words) (30%)
- attendance at and participation in at least one History of Medicine Group Meeting (10%)

Final Research Paper (40% of colloquium grade)

Your final research paper, of 20 pages (5,000 words), will be based on a topic of your choice, typewritten in a font of respectable size, and have margins that are no greater than one inch. It will be due on Friday, May 4. Mark your calendars now to avoid problems later. I expect that all of you will turn in your papers, either directly to me or to my mailbox at the Institute for Comparative and International Studies. I will grant an extension only if you are facing a family emergency that requires you to leave campus before the last day of the semester and for the remainder of the semester.

Preparing for Your Presentation, Your Report, and Your Role as Discussion Leader

As a guide to help you focus ideas for your presentation, your written report, and your role as discussion leader, you should keep the following questions in mind alongside those raised during course of our meetings:

- What is the subject of the reading and what are its major themes?
- How does this reading relate to the issues raised and events discussed in this course or elsewhere?
- What passages do I find particularly interesting, striking, or confusing and why?
- Does this work echo themes raised by the other texts I've read for this class (or elsewhere)? If so, how so?
- How do the themes and ideas in this work echo issues, ideas, and debates in the area of healthcare and healing in contemporary (present-day) society (ie. cultural/political conflicts, economic/ethical issues, social relations, etc.)

Always use these standard questions to help you think of ideas, questions, and issues to raise in our discussions. When answering the assigned, specific questions about the reading, be sure to include specific reference to, that is, evidence from, the assigned reading. Overall, you will be graded on the content of your written work (ie. the extent to which you address the above questions), as well as on their structure and style. Spelling, grammar, sentence structure, and overall organization always “count.”

Documentation

If you decide to quote directly from any of the assigned readings (or, for that matter, any unassigned readings) in your written work, you must provide proper documentation as outlined in your copy of Kate L. Turabian, **A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations**. If you are not familiar with the use of footnotes or parentheses to cite direct quotations or paraphrasing from a text, you should consult this important work. If you have any questions about documentation, please speak with me.

Important Reminders

With regard to your all your written work, be sure to keep in mind that all of the following are considered plagiarism and violations of the Honor Code: · Any work taken verbatim or paraphrased from assigned or unassigned, primary or secondary sources · Any work taken verbatim or paraphrased

from a web site · Any work copied from a fellow student who has taken or is currently taking this colloquium. In addition, work done for another course and submitted to the instructor of this colloquium is considered a violation of the Honor Code. In the end, you may discuss the assigned reading with your peers and consult non-assigned historical material if you wish, but all of your written work should be composed individually and with strict adherence to the Honor Code.

The Honor Code...

The Emory Honor Code will be in effect in this colloquium throughout the term. As the College Handbook states, “students who violate the [Honor] Code are subject to warning, reprimand, probation, suspension, or dismissal.” If you haven't read the Honor Code, the instructor suggests that you do so. Copies of the Code are available in the College Office.

...and the Learning Environment

In the classroom, mutual regard will also be the basis of our learning. Our various life experiences mean that we all come to the classroom with different perspectives and divergent strategies for defending those views. Thus, classroom etiquette is particularly vital. Listen carefully when your peers are speaking. State your opinions in a way that invites discussion, rather than assumes that you have the definitive view on the topic. Speak with me if you are offended by something that is said in class. Take responsibility for your learning and work hard to make this colloquium enrich your educational experience at Emory.

Colloquium Schedule

Monday, January 15

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday - No Classes

Wednesday, January 17

First day of classes for Emory College

Monday, January 22

Meeting #1: Introduction: Healers and Patients Considered

Thursday, January 25

Last day for approved schedule changes, late registration, or cancellation of registration with a full refund, minus deposit. Last day to drop without record.

Monday, January 29

Meeting #2: First Student Presentation and Discussion: Enter the Healer/Enter the Patient

- Arthur Conan Doyle, **Round the Red Lamp** (read this entire text online [here](#))
- William Ernest Henley, **In Hospital**
- Edward Shorter's **Bedside Manners**, pp. 17-74

Monday, February 5

Meeting #3: Second Student Presentation and Discussion: Alternative Healers/Traditional Patients

S. Weir Mitchell, **The Autobiography Of A Quack** (read this entire text online [here](#))

Wednesday, February 7

History of Medicine Group Meeting

M.A.J. MCKENNA (Staff Writer, Science and Medicine, Atlanta Journal-Constitution)

"A Fire that Scorches Us All: The 'Rediscovery' of the 1918 Flu"

Click [here](#) for details

Monday, February 12

Meeting #4: Third Student Presentation and Discussion: The Healing Nurse and the Healing Environment (Part I)

- Florence Nightingale's **Notes on Hospitals**
- short selection from Josephine A. Dolan, **Nursing in Society: A Historical Perspective**

Monday, February 19

No class

Monday, February 26

Meeting #5: Fourth Student Presentation and Discussion: The Healing Nurse and the Healing Environment (Part II)

- Louisa May Alcott's **Hospital Sketches**
- Walt Whitman's **The Wound Dresser** (click [here](#) to read this text; scroll about halfway down to

"Wound Dresser")

Wednesday, February 28

History of Medicine Group Meeting

Dr. Jonathan Ablard (Department of History, State University of West Georgia)

"Psychiatrists, the Mentally Ill and the National State in Argentina, 1890-1945"

Click [here](#) for details

Monday, March 5

Meeting #6: Fifth Student Presentation and Discussion: Hysteria

- Charlotte Perkins Gilman's **The Yellow Wallpaper** (1892) (click [here](#) and scroll to "Gilman" to read this text)
- Edward Shorter's **Bedside Manners**, pp. 140-178

Wednesday, March 7

History of Medicine Group Meeting

Dr. Joyce Flueckiger (Department of Religion, Emory University)

"Healing as a Religious Idiom in South India"

Click [here](#) for details

Friday, March 9

Last date for students to declare a major to be recorded by pre-registration

Monday-Friday, March 12-16

Spring Break - No class Monday, March 12

Monday, March 19

Meeting #7: Screening and Discussion: Healers, Patients, and Quackery

- **The Road to Wellville** (1994) Starring Matthew Broderick, Dana Carvey, John Cusack, Bridget Fonda, Anthony Hopkins. Based on the novel by T. Coraghessan Boyle. Read about this film [here](#).
- selection from James Harvey Young, **American Health Quackery: Collected Essays** (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1992)

- selections from American Medical Association, **The Men's Specialists Frauds: The Methods Used by Quacks in Swindling Their Victims** (Chicago: American Medical Association, 1913)

Monday, March 26

Meeting #8: Sixth Student Presentation and Discussion: Healing and Identity in the First World War (Part I)

- Seth Koven, "Remembering and Dismemberment: Crippled Children, Wounded Soldiers, and the Great War in Great Britain" in **American Historical Review**, 1994 99(4): 1167-1202
- Jeffrey S. Reznick, "Work-Therapy and the Disabled British Soldier in Britain in the First World War: The Case of Shepherd's Bush Military Hospital, London," in David A. Gerber (ed.), **Disabled Veterans in History** (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2000), 185-203

Monday-Friday, March 26-30

Advising Week

Wednesday-Friday, March 28-30

A Special History of Medicine Group Co-Sponsored Event
"World War I and Violence Workshop"

Click [here](#) for details

Monday, April 2

Meeting #9: Seventh Student Presentation/Discussion and Screening of Film Selections: Polio in America

- **A Paralyzing Fear** (1998). A PBS Video production. Read more about this film [here](#).
- selections from the companion book **A Paralyzing Fear**

Pre-registration for fall semester begins

Wednesday, April 4

History of Medicine Group Meeting

Devorah Slavin (Doctoral Candidate in the Department of History, Technology, and Society at Georgia Institute of Technology)

"Tiny Cows and Copious Milk: Bovine Growth Hormone Patents and the Social Construction of Cows in America"

Click [here](#) for details

Monday, April 9

Meeting #10: Screening and Discussion: Healing and Identity in the First World War (Part II)

- **Regeneration** (1997) Starring Tanya Allen, Stuart Bunce, Jonathan Pryce, James Wilby, Johnny Lee Miller. Studio Rafford Films, Norstar Entertainment, BBC, Scottish Arts Council Year 1997. Based on the novel by Pat Barker. Scotland-Canada Coproduction. Read about this film [here](#).

Monday, April 16

Meeting #11: Eighth Student Presentation/Discussion and Screening of Film Selections: The Influenza Pandemic of 1918

- **Influenza 1918** (1998) A PBS Video production. Read more about this film [here](#).
- selections from the companion book **Influenza 1918**

Wednesday, April 18

History of Medicine Group Meeting

Tina Trent (Doctoral Candidate, Department of Women's Studies, Emory University)

"When Abortion Was Illegal in the South: Uncovering a Hidden Past"

Click [here](#) for details

Monday, April 23

Meeting #12: Screening and Discussion: Death and Dying

- **Tuesdays with Morrie** (1997, book; 1999, film) Read about the book [here](#) and about the film and the author [here](#).

Wednesday, April 25

History of Medicine Group Meeting

Dr. Jeffrey S. Reznick (Research Fellow in the History of Medicine, Center for the Study of Health, Culture, and Society at Rollins School of Public Health)

"Technology for Life: International Perspectives on Prosthetics Research and Development"

Click [here](#) for details

Monday, April 30

Meeting #13: Final Discussion: Healers and Patients Reconsidered

Last day of classes and deadline for completion of Honors Programs

Tuesday-Wednesday, May 1-2

Reading Period

Thursday-Friday, May 3-4

Final Examination Period

Friday, May 4

Research Paper Due By 5PM Today

Monday, May 14

End of Semester - Commencement